

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 89
By Montgomery

A RESOLUTION to honor Don Baker for his selection as the 2002 General Aviation Airport Manager of the Year for the southern region of the Federal Aviation Administration.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those individuals who, through their tireless efforts, have effected progressive changes in their working environments; and

WHEREAS, Don Baker is one such estimable professional, having been selected as the 2002 General Aviation Airport Manager of the Year for the southern region of the Federal Aviation Administration; and

WHEREAS, manager of the Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge Airport since 1982, Don Baker is truly deserving of this honor; his colleagues have said of Mr. Baker, "His impact on general aviation aircraft activities in his community and throughout the State of Tennessee cannot be overemphasized"; and

WHEREAS, since he began his tenure at the Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge Airport, Don Baker has secured approximately ten million dollars in funding for the airport and instituted several positive and much-needed changes, including extending the runway to 5,500 feet,

extending the taxiway, utilizing the popularity of the Tennessee Museum of Aviation to increase air traffic, and increasing the number of hangars to 37; and

WHEREAS, because of the unfortunate threat of terrorism that has become a fact of our daily lives, Don Baker has been instrumental in obtaining a security system for the airport; and

WHEREAS, always increasing profitability for the airport, Don Baker has been an influential component of the increase in commercial air traffic into Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to these types of accolades, this is the second consecutive honor for Don Baker, who was named Tennessee Airport Manager of the Year in August; and

WHEREAS, FAA officials will be flying into the Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge Airport on March 14, 2003, to present Don Baker with the honor of General Aviation Airport Manager of the Year for the southern region; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to pause in its deliberations to honor this most deserving professional; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby congratulate Don Baker on being named 2002 General Aviation Airport Manager of the Year for the Federal Aviation Administration's southern region and wish him continued success in his every endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.